

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Cancelled)

2. (New) In a multicarrier communication system including a first multicarrier transceiver and a second multicarrier transceiver, a variable state length initialization method comprising:

transmitting from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

transmitting from the second multicarrier transceiver to the first multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

selecting the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

transmitting from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

3. (New) In a multicarrier transceiver, a variable state length initialization method comprising:

transmitting to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

selecting the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

transmitting to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

4. (New) In a multicarrier transceiver, a variable state length initialization method comprising:

transmitting to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

selecting a number equal to the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

5. (New) A variable state length initialization multicarrier communication system, including a first multicarrier transceiver and a second multicarrier transceiver, comprising:

means for transmitting from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

means for transmitting from the second multicarrier transceiver to the first multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

means for selecting the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

means for transmitting from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

6. (New) A variable state length initialization multicarrier transceiver comprising:

means for transmitting to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

means for receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

means for selecting the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

means for transmitting to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected a number of multicarrier symbols.

7. (New) A variable state length initialization multicarrier transceiver comprising:

means for transmitting to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

means for receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

means for selecting a number equal to the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

means for receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

8. (New) A variable state length initialization multicarrier communication system comprising:

a first multicarrier transceiver designed to transmit information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

a second multicarrier transceiver designed to transmit to the first multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols,

wherein the first multicarrier transceiver is designed to select the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols, and

to transmit to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

9. (New) A variable state length initialization multicarrier transceiver designed to transmit to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols,

wherein the multicarrier transceiver is also designed to receive from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols, to select the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols, and to transmit to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

10. (New) A variable state length initialization multicarrier transceiver designed to transmit to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols,

wherein the multicarrier transceiver is also designed to receive from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols, to select the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of

multicarrier symbols, and to receive from the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

11. (New) An information storage media having recorded thereon information for variable state length initialization in a multicarrier communication system comprising:

information that transmits from a first multicarrier transceiver to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

information that transmits from the second multicarrier transceiver to the first multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

information that selects the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

information that transmits from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

12. (New) An information storage media having recorded thereon information for variable state length initialization in a multicarrier transceiver comprising:

information that transmits to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

information that receives from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

information that selects the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

information that transmits to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

13. (New) An information storage media having recorded thereon information for variable state length initialization in a multicarrier transceiver comprising:

information that transmits to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

information that receives from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

information that selects a number equal to the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

information that receives from the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

14. (New) In a multicarrier communication system including a first multicarrier transceiver and a second multicarrier transceiver, a variable state length initialization protocol comprising:

transmitting from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

transmitting from the second multicarrier transceiver to the first multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

selecting the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

transmitting from the first multicarrier transceiver to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

15. (New) In a multicarrier transceiver, a variable state length initialization protocol comprising:

transmitting to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

selecting the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and



transmitting to the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.

16. (New) In a multicarrier transceiver, a variable state length initialization protocol comprising:

transmitting to a second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a first value that is used to determine a first minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver information identifying a second value that is used to determine a second minimum number of multicarrier symbols;

selecting a number equal to the greater of the first minimum number of multicarrier symbols and the second minimum number of multicarrier symbols; and

receiving from the second multicarrier transceiver, during an initialization state, the selected number of multicarrier symbols.